

Mr. Speaker, that quote reminds me a lot of Bob Merkle, because for over 30 years, Bob Merkle has been organizing and educating and tirelessly fighting for the rights of working men and women in Michigan and our Nation. Through all of those years Bob has been guided by a fiery devotion to the interests of working families and a love of our community.

Bob started his career as an apprentice tool and diemaker at Enterprise Tool and Gear in 1956. Starting in 1960, Bob served as a plant chairperson and chief steward at Bendix Automation and Measurement. He was later elected vice president and then president of UAW Local 155. In 1979, Bob was appointed to the staff of UAW Region 1, where he served as CAP coordinator under Steve Yokich.

In addition to Bob's years of work with the UAW, he has also been tremendously active in local civic organizations. Bob has served his community on the board of Michigan Works, the Macomb Community Growth Alliance, and the Hamtramck Advisory Committee.

Bob and his wife Pat are both committed Democratic Party activists. Bob has served as a precinct delegate in Ira Township, on the Democratic State Central Committee and as a delegate to four Democratic Conventions. Both Bob and Pat have also devoted so much of their time to the 10th District Democratic Committee. And this year, Pat served as a delegate to the Democratic Convention in Chicago.

I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Bob Merkle for nearly 20 years. On issues like NAFTA, and employee rights and job safety, nobody has worked longer, fought harder or been more committed. I am proud to call Bob and Pat close friends.

After a distinguished career working with the UAW for the rights of middle-income families, Bob will now move on to other pursuits. But all of us who know Bob know that whatever he chooses to do, he will continue to be a leader and continue to be guided by the principal that all of us have a responsibility to look out for our neighbor, and to improve our community.

I am pleased to call attention to Bob's years of dedicated service and to congratulate him on his retirement. I know that he and Pat have many years of happiness ahead of them. I wish them both the best and look forward to continuing our friendship and our association.

RECOGNITION OF 22 YEARS OF CONGRESSIONAL SERVICE CON- GRESSWOMAN CARDISS COLLINS

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the commitment and dedication of a fellow Member of this body, Congresswoman CARDISS COLLINS, representative from the Seventh District of Illinois located in the city of Chicago.

After 22 years of distinguished service, Congresswoman CARDISS COLLINS has decided to retire from the House of Representatives. Her departure will be missed by those like myself who have come to appreciate her wisdom and quiet dedication to good Federal Government.

Congresswoman COLLINS should not only be remembered as being the longest serving African-American woman in Congress, but as a political "trailblazer."

Congresswoman CARDISS COLLINS has been a vocal advocate on the behalf of women, children, and minorities.

Throughout her tenure in Congress, Mrs. COLLINS has worked diligently to improve the quality of health care for women and minorities. To this end, she wrote the 1991 law which extend Medicare coverage for mammography screening, thereby allowing millions of elderly and disabled women to receive this vital service. She was successful in sponsoring legislation which expanded Medicaid coverage for pap smears in order to better provide for the early detection of cervical and uterine cancers. In each of the past 4 years, the House has adopted Mrs. COLLINS' resolution designating October as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, which has lead to greater awareness of the threat to women's health that this disease poses.

Mrs. COLLINS' legislative agenda has also focused on the need for increased awareness and research into the poor health status of America's minority populations. In 1993, she authored legislation which amended the National Institute of Health Revitalization Act to establish a permanent Office of Minority Health within the National Institute of Health [NIH]. As a result of her efforts, funding and research into minority health concerns have increased sharply and the NIH has become more responsive to the health needs of all Americans.

Congresswoman COLLINS has always been a vocal advocate for the protection and increased safety of our Nation's children. As chairwoman of the former House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Competitiveness, she was successful in enacting both the Child Abuse Prevention Act, which provides Federal grants to train teachers and develop curriculum in child abuse prevention, and the Child Safety Protection Act, which requires warning labels on toys with small parts and establishes safety standards for bicycle helmets.

One of Congresswoman COLLINS' most active areas of interest has been her resolve to achieve title IX gender equity in college athletics and she conducted hearings and investigations into the practices of our Nations' colleges and universities to comply with the law. In 1993, she authored the Gender Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act, a law which requires colleges to disclose data on their spending and participation rates for both men and women's sports. As a result of her work, female participation rates in athletics have increased dramatically.

Congresswoman CARDISS COLLINS has indeed made a difference in the lives of many Americans.

Congresswoman COLLINS, I thank you for your leadership and visionary work as a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

A TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE ANDY JACOBS FOR OUTSTAND- ING SERVICE TO THE CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to pay tribute to the gentleman

from Indiana, the Honorable ANDY JACOBS, who has loyally served the residents of Indiana's Tenth District for 30 years as their Representative in the U.S. Congress.

ANDY's service to our country began during the Korean war, when he served in the Marine Corps. In 1964, he was elected as a Representative from Indiana, a duty which he has honorably fulfilled for 30 years.

Throughout his service, ANDY has been a frugal and prudent guardian of Federal spending. He has supported the balanced budget amendment and the "A to Z" spending cuts. Furthermore, he played a key role in converting the Social Security Administration to an independent agency and in limiting employer's need to pay Social Security taxes for part-time domestic workers.

ANDY is a straightforward and unassuming leader who continually has demonstrated the ability to vote for what he believes is right. Political winds and pressure have not affected his decisions. ANDY's humor in the dining room and other places will be sorely missed. This body will be losing a great Representative and American when ANDY leaves here.

On behalf of the citizens of Wisconsin's Ninth district, I thank the Honorable ANDY JACOBS for his outstanding service to the people of the United States.

RETIREMENT OF CONGRESSMEN CLINGER AND WALKER

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to tribute to two of the longest-serving members from the Pennsylvania delegation—BOB WALKER and BILL CLINGER—as the date of their retirement from this august body draws near. Their records of dedicated service to their country and their constituents are two of the most eloquent arguments against term limits that one could ever imagine.

While we represent very different constituencies and have very different views on a number of public policy issues, I have worked closely with Congressman WALKER and Representative CLINGER on a great many issues of importance to the people of Pennsylvania. The success of the Pennsylvania delegation in representing the interests of the residents of the Commonwealth is due in no small part to the ability of the Pennsylvania congressional delegation to repeatedly rise above partisan politics in order to serve our constituents.

BOB WALKER has served the people of Pennsylvania's 16th Congressional District for 20 years. He will long be remembered for his in-depth knowledge of the House legislative process. His parliamentary prowess was so well-known and admired that he was called upon to instruct House Republican freshmen in the rules and procedures of the House. I think that one of the highest compliments that one politician can give an adversary is that he effectively pursued his goals. BOB WALKER has certainly deserved that plaudit.

BOB is also known for his intense loyalty to his party and his friends. On the floor and off, he has labored tirelessly on behalf of his party—during the many years when House Republicans were in the minority as well as